



A Message from our CEO

Hi everyone,

We are delighted by today's announcement that Chief Minister Gunner committed \$20 million for employees and temporary visa holders, including international students, who are not covered by the JobKeeper scheme. NTCOSS has been advocating for measures to support those who were left behind since the original announcement of the JobKeeper scheme, and it is critical that these supports are delivered so temporary visa holders and international students are supported. We heard harrowing stories of migrant families not knowing how to feed their families. We expect the funds will be administered as part of the [Small Business Survival Fund](#), however more details will be available next week.

In a rapidly evolving landscape it's important to make sure voices are heard and no one is left behind. If you have any queries relating to community services from within or outside an organisation, we are always happy to help coordinate and make sure it gets to the right place and the right response. Just send an email to admin@ntcoss.org.au. If you are changing the way you deliver a service, please let us know so we can keep the sector informed.

We are also seeking feedback to our central list of [Emergency Relief Providers NT](#). The list is constantly being updated due to many service changes caused by COVID-19. If you have updated information about your service, or a service you know about, please let us know. We continue to provide COVID-19 updates, announcements and resources most relevant to the social and community services sector through our [website](#). Please visit our dedicated [coronavirus \(COVID-19\) information](#) page for more information. Follow the links to our [Twitter](#) feed and [Facebook](#) page where you can get updates straight to your news feed. Once again thanks for the work you all do to assist those who are most vulnerable in this crisis.

Deborah Di Natale

NTCOSS CEO

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Webpage - Updated Daily](#)

[Become a Member](#)

CALL FOR UPDATES: NT Organisations delivering frontline services

In light of the current situation, NTCOSS recognises that there will be ongoing changes of service delivery and availability for many organisations.

If your organisation is currently operating in a modified way, here are two ways that NTCOSS can assist in sharing this information:

- Member organisations can manually update details regarding service delivery in their listing on our [Directory](#). If you require any assistance with this change, email jacob@ntcoss.org.au or admin@ntcoss.org.au.
- NTCOSS is releasing a regular Sector Update on Mondays in addition to the regular eBulletin on Thursdays while there remains a need for more frequent updates. If you would like your change of delivery of services added to the next Sector Update or eBulletin, please email admin@ntcoss.org.au with the relevant details.

[Back to top](#)

SURVEY: NTCOSS Membership Benefits

NTCOSS would like to get your input as we review our membership benefits and our broader member strategy. We've designed a short, three minute survey to gather your input. The results of the survey will assist us as we address the needs of our members and the social and community sector moving forward.

NTCOSS believes that our ability to conduct our work relies on the support and input of our members and we will continue to work collaboratively with members and other community stakeholders to achieve our shared goals.

If you have any questions about the survey, or would like to make additional comments, please contact [Tessa Snowdon](#).

[Take the Survey Now](#)

National and Territory Wide

RESOURCE: NT Based Telephone Counselling Service

From **9 April** TeamHEALTH will offer TeamTALK – A phone base support service, where any Territorian can quickly access an experienced, locally based counselor or mental health recovery worker for a judgement free, confidential chat. To learn more about this service, [click here](#). Call the service on 1800 TEAM 00 (1800 832 600).

[Back to top](#)

INFORMATION SESSION: Supporting volunteering involving organisations during COVID-19

You are invited to join Volunteering SA&NT Chief Executive Officer, Evelyn O’Loughlin and Dr Chris Lease, SA Deputy Chief Public Health Officer as they discuss what volunteer involving organisations can do to manage the impact of COVID-19 on volunteers, organisations and the wider community. If you are unable to attend this will be recorded and uploaded to the [COVID-19 page](#) on the Volunteering SA&NT website.

Date: Friday **17 April** at 2.00pm via Zoom Meetings

Please click [here](#) to register.

[Back to top](#)

MINDFULNESS: Free online meditation / mindfulness session

Central Australian Women’s Legal Service (CAWLS), are facilitating free weekly sessions via Zoom for all women in Central Australia to connect and refresh from the changing world we are experiencing. These sessions will be run by Fiona Gordon of Alice Springs Massage and Yoga Therapy.

To help us select a timeframe that will be suit the majority of interested participants and to register for more information, please take our short (3 question) survey [here](#). The first session will commence next Monday **20 April** – with the selected time and video dial in details to be sent out by Friday afternoon.

We hope by being able to facilitate a dedicated 1 hour of mindfulness online, we can allow women in Central Australia – and across the country - to take a moment for themselves and start their week right.

[Back to top](#)

RESOURCES: Fact Sheets for Payments related to COVID-19

[This website](#) has a comprehensive list of fact sheets and self-help resources available for download regarding current payments available for COVID-19 related relief.

[Back to top](#)

RESOURCE: Tips and resources for staying safe online during COVID-19

The [website of the eSafety Commissioner](#) offers resources designed to help people stay safe online during the COVID-19 pandemic.

[Back to top](#)

RESOURCE: NT Shelter COVID-19 Webpage

NT Shelter has launched a new [COVID-19 related webpage](#) that focuses on providing up-to-date housing and homelessness resources in the NT. The website also lists any changes to service delivery to associated organisations and agencies.

[Back to top](#)

GRANTS / CALL FOR INPUT: Youth Vibe Holiday Grants for the July school holidays and Quick Response Grants

Due to the restrictions around social gatherings and physical distancing, the [Office of Youth Affairs](#) is encouraging organisations to think about other ways of working and connecting with each other and young people, either through virtual platforms or other innovative options. If you have an idea that needs support contact the Office of Youth Affairs on 8999 3862 or at tf.oya@nt.gov.au. Grant information is also available via the [Grants NT portal](#).

[Back to top](#)

SCHOLARSHIP: Applications open for Youth Off The Streets National Scholarship Program

The Youth Off The Streets National Scholarship Program celebrates the talents and strengths of young people across Australia who exhibit extraordinary promise – but who lack the support and resources to fulfill their potential. Every year over 20 young people throughout Australia are awarded Youth Off The Streets scholarships. Recipients are granted funds to assist them pursue further education and training – and work towards a positive future. Click [here for more information](#) regarding eligibility and the application process.

[Back to top](#)

SURVEY: Complaint processes and out of home care

There are formal complaint processes available to children and young people who live in out-of-home care. Such processes are designed to enable young people to speak up and seek support if they are unhappy about their experience in care. Everybody has a right to make a complaint. [This survey](#) is evaluating how much how well this process is understood by those who use it, and will provide information about how the process can be improved upon.

[Back to top](#)

ONLINE WORKSHOPS: NAPCAN Free Community Workshops

In response to the COVID-19 situation, NAPCAN has adapted our FREE community workshops and is now able to offer the following training online via zoom.

- Preventing Child Abuse and Neglect (including Mandatory Reporting)
- Child Safe Organisations
- 7 Steps to Safety

NAPCAN are keeping the numbers small (10 registrations) so that the workshops can stay interactive and focused on how all can work together to protect children and promote their safety and well-being.

For more information and to register, please visit the [NAPCAN training calendar](#).

[Back to top](#)

Change of Service Delivery

CHANGE OF SERVICE DELIVERY - Alice Springs Mission Australia Psychosocial Support Program

Mission Australia's National Psychosocial Support Program (NPSP) is still open during this coronavirus (Covid-19) pandemic crisis. In light of the pandemic and in consideration of the health and safety of staff and clients and in line with National regulations, the program has adapted the way they connect. This means that methods of contact are limited to phone and text messaging, email, Facetime and zoom. Please click [here to read](#) about further changes and adjustments to this program.

[Back to top](#)

CHANGE OF SERVICE DELIVERY: Mental Illness Fellowship of Australia (NT)

The miTrack Program and the Carers Program are both still in operation, and are both still taking referrals, however there have been some changes in delivery of service. The changes in service delivery are as follows:

- We are still able to see clients face to face by appointment only. This is limited to one person at a time and social distancing must be adhered to.
- We are not providing any transport to clients
- All group events and workshops have been cancelled

We are also keeping in contact with clients and stakeholders via phone and email, and are available for meetings via Zoom. Our office has strict hygiene measures in place, with handwashing facilities and sanitiser available to those who visit through appointments. We are in contact with schools to discuss how client support will work once the school term resumes. [Email](#) or call (08) 8953 1467 for further details.

[Back to top](#)

CHANGE OF SERVICE DELIVERY: headspace

Our team are now working remotely and we have postponed face to face meetings or engagements and are meeting with stakeholders over the phone or online if this is practical. Be You and headspace are still operating and we are here to continue supporting schools as below:

- Action Team Leaders and schools can still reach out to Be You Consultants to discuss strategies to support whole school mental health and wellbeing. We will be working to ensure we are able to adapt our service provision to meet the current needs of schools
- We will continue to provide suicide postvention support to secondary schools. This will be provided through video conferencing. Referral pathways remain the same.
- [Online Check-Ins and In Focus](#) professional learning presentations are still proceeding as planned. Check-Ins are a great way to school staff to connect with other educators from all over Australia.
- Other headspace Schools program areas will continue to provide services either over the phone or online
- [headspace Centres](#) will continue to provide services and some are currently transitioning into delivering this support either online or over the phone
- [ehespace](#) continues to provide services for young people 12 -25yrs
- We will communicate any updates with you as they come to hand
- headspace has some resources related to [COVID-19](#)

For more information on supporting educators, children and young people as we manage the impacts of COVID-19 please refer to <https://beyou.edu.au/resources/news/covid-19>

[Back to top](#)

Past eBulletins and COVID-19 Sector Updates

Access past eBulletins / Sector Updates here:

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Sector Update 9 April 2020](#)

[NTCOSS COVID-19 Worker's Wellbeing eBulletin 6 April 2020](#)

[Back to top](#)

NTCOSS is a not for profit, member based, peak body for the social and community services sector in the Northern Territory. We're an advocate for social justice on behalf of people and communities in the NT, who may be affected by poverty and disadvantage.

NTCOSS acknowledges that we work on the land of the First Peoples of the Northern Territory and respect their continuing cultural connections as traditional owners of this country.

Don't forget to check out the NTCOSS website and follow us on Facebook and Twitter.

Submit an item to eBulletin

To contribute notices to our Sector Update, please email your information in the body of an email or as a Word document to admin@ntcoss.org.au

Please ensure your contribution is in line with [NTCOSS guidelines](#) and includes all appropriate dates, times, links and contact details.

[Back to top](#)



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